

GILFORD PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

February 3, 2020

Present: Herb Greene, Rick Nelson, Peter Allen, Lisa Manz-Buckley, Thom Francoeur, Dave Smith, Jim Glover, Tracey Blandford, and Miriam York

The meeting was called to order at 5:30

1. **Guests** - Members of the Cal Ripken League – Michael Giovanditto, Jason LaBonte, Corey Carroll, and Stephanie Howard were present. Michael presented a written copy of the proposals that they would like to initiate at both the Stonewall Park field and the Francoeur field. We went over these proposals with them and asked questions. After they left we voted on the following proposals:
 - a. Jim Glover made a motion that was seconded by Dave Smith “The Commission recommends approving replacing the dugouts at the Francoeur field with ones that would match the ones built at the Stonewall field. The Gilford Cal Ripken league would pay for all labor and materials. The town of Gilford would be responsible for the demolition and removal of the current structures and waive any permit fees”. The motion passed 5-0.
 - b. Jim Glover made a motion that was seconded by Thom Francoeur “The Commission recommends taking down the current 3’ fence along the 3rd base line at the Stonewall Park field and installing an 8’ fence to protect guests and vehicles in the parking lot and beyond. All materials and labor to be paid for by the GCRB with the permit fees waived by the town”. The motion passed 5-0.
 - c. Jim Glover made a motion that was seconded by Dave Smith “The Commission recommends the conditional approval of allowing the GCRB to install an electronic scoreboard at the Stonewall field, contingent upon the approval of size, a visual mock-up including sponsors, location and information on the future maintenance of said scoreboard. All materials and labor to be paid for by the GCRB”. The motion passed 5-0.
 - d. Jim Glover made a motion that was seconded by Dave Smith “The Commission recommends the approval of painting the dugouts and structures at the Francoeur field, as well as the concession building at Stonewall Park to Gilford blue instead of the green.”. The motion passed 5-0. Discussion ensued about painting the dugouts on the Varsity Baseball Field at the Village field the same color to match. Herb will check whether approval would be needed by the Historical District to change the color on the varsity dugouts. He will also reach out to school about potentially changing the color of the varsity dugouts.
 - e. The proposal for enlarging the parking lot at the Stonewall Park was tabled as more information is needed and the wetlands reviewed.

- f. Dave Smith made a motion that was seconded by Jim Glover, “to recommend restricting dogs from the Francoeur field, same as at the field at Stonewall Park”. Motion passed 5-0.
- g. The GCRB has been awarded the District Championship Tournament for 2020. The dates involved are June 17 – 21 at both the Francoeur and Stonewall fields.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the January 6, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

3. Program Assistant Update:

Three candidates were interviewed by Herb, Thom, Rick, and Miriam. Their top choice has passed the background check and has verbally accepted the position. The selection is currently awaiting final approval from the Board of Selectmen with the intention that she will start on February 10th.

4. Programs Update:

Herb reviewed the Directors report. The Commission feels the Gunstock Ski and Snowboard program should be capped at 75 as the 116 this year was too much. The February vacation programs were discussed as was the youth basketball All-Star selection. The Francoeur-Babcock Tournament will be held March 5-8th.

5. Stonewall Park:

The renaming of the field was tabled as the Herb is still awaiting additional information on references from Mike Murray. The Commission asked Herb to give him until February 20th to submit the requested information.

6. 2020 Budget:

The Public hearing had no changes to the budget
Upcoming budget schedule – Deliberative Thursday February 6th at 7:00 at the HS and the Town Vote on Tuesday March 10th at the GYC.

7. Ice Rink:

The ice conditions have varied depending on the weather, it is up and running now. The entry way was fixed by the DPW on January 23rd. Plans are to get the curling program going on February 6th – 6:30-7:30 pm.

The Convenient Care MD sponsorship was approved by the Selectmen and a contract has been signed with CCMD. Herb is awaiting delivery of payment and the sponsorship banners.

8. Gilford Beach:

Herb verbally confirmed last years concession stand operator will be returning and will get a contract when he returns to NH. The beach manager is returning and letters have been sent out to staff from last year who are invited to return.

The lifeguard stands that need replacing will be built by the Gilford High School Building Trades Department. The town will be supplying materials and they will build at least one new one prior to the end of the school year. They may start construction on the others as their time allows.

Herb is working on an RFP to replace the two pieces of playground equipment that were removed from the beach last summer and is hoping we may be able to install new equipment with a marine theme.

9. Facility Use Requests:

There were none.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam A. York
Secretary

Enclosure: Director's Report

Director's Report for February 3, 2020

Programs

Attendance at our Adult Volleyball program is starting to pick back up after a 4-week break due to weather, holidays and a scheduling conflict. Our Youth Basketball Program has been going very well and is scheduled to wrap-up on February 1st. We've also selected our all-star teams. Each team will be playing in one away tournament at the end February as well as our Francoeur/Babcock Tournament in early March. Our Senior Moment-um program continues to have good participation, averaging over 30 participants per program throughout the month of January. Our Senior Walking program continues to have steady attendance as well. Our Gunstock Ski and Snowboard program has gone well thus far. Although our high numbers have made it tough to manage, we've come up with some solutions to better help participants and parents find our chaperones and we look forward to wrapping up the session on January 28th. Our X-Country Ski Lessons at Bolduc Park began a week late due to a weather cancellation. As a result, the session has been extended one week and is scheduled to wrap up on February 1st. The start of our curling program has been delayed due to poor ice conditions as a result of a number of warm spells. We're hoping that as weather and ice conditions have improved, that we'll be able to start the program on January 30th. We have delayed the start of our snowshoe program because of our current staff shortage. We're planning to start this program in February once our ski program has wrapped up. The numbers for the programs we've run the past month are as follows:

- Adult Volleyball – About 15 Participants each week
- Youth Basketball Program – 108 Participants
- Gunstock Ski and Snowboard Program – 116 Participants
- Senior Walking – About 7-8 Participants per week.
- Senior Moment-um T-Bones Trip – 27 Participants
- Bolduc Park Cross Country Ski Lessons – 8 Participants
- Senior Moment-um Pizza & Speaker – 44 Participants
- Senior Moment-um Winter Pot Luck – 33 Participants
- Senior Moment-um GMS Dinner and Show – 45 Participants Expected

Planning and registration is underway for a number of additional upcoming winter programs. Sue has a few upcoming Senior Moment-um programs planned through the month of February. We are looking to hold a Family Full Moon Snowshoe Hike in mid-February. Planning is also underway for a couple February Vacation Programs including a Vacation Fun Day, and our Annual Cardboard Box Sled Derby. We still have quite a few tickets left for our Celtics Bus Trip, which we are co-sponsoring with the Belmont Recreation Department in the Middle of March. Here is a list of planned programs for the end of January and February and the dates they will run:

- Youth Basketball Rec Season Continues through February 1st
- Senior Moment-um Water Street Café Trip on February 3rd
- Adult Snowshoe Hikes will run on Tuesdays as trail conditions allow
- Adult Pick-up Volleyball runs every Tuesday
- Adult Curling runs every Thursday through February 27th
- Senior Moment-um Game Day and Appetizers on February 10th
- Family Full Moon Snowshoe Hike at GES Nature Trail on February 10th

- Senior Moment-um Bagels and Movie on February 17th
- Vacation Fun Day on February 25th
- Cardboard Box Sled Derby February 26th
- All Star Basketball Teams play tournaments through February and early March

Facilities

The Arthur A. Tilton Gilford Ice Rink has been closed twice through the month of January due to poor ice conditions. Once was just for a couple of days, but the second time for a full week. Public Works was able to reinstall the roof over the entry way on January 23rd.

Coordinating with the Department of Public Works, we were able to open the beach gate for access winter recreational activities on Wednesday, January 22nd. We have a portable toilet on site and the gate will remain open through the season.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director